29th March 1955]

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I do not think what the hon. Member says is correct. But I presume that they are also taking their chance along with the other contractors and perhaps their rates may not compare favourably. We will try to encourage such workers' societies as far as possible, provided that their rates and conditions are also reasonable. I shall have this impressed on the Engineers and see that they are encouraged."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have allowed enough time for this question. We shall pass on to the next question."

Steel plant with Soviet aid

* 1686 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Madras Government have approached the Government of India for the establishment in this State of a Steel Plant proposed to be re-established by the Government of India with the aid of the Soviet Union? 9-10 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government of India were addressed for the establishment of a steel plant in this State. But it was not with any special reference to any steel plant which might possibly be put up with the aid of the Soviet Union."

Arrears of sales tax due from traders in Agra

* 1687 *Q.*—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are arrears of sales tax due to the State Government from some traders who are in Agra; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken to recover the same?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) Sri Gupta Trading Company, Matur Glass Works, Ferozabad, Agra, assessees on the file of the Deputy Commercial Tax Officer, Peddunaickenpet, Madras, are in arrears of sales tax to this State Government as follows :—

1952–53	Rs. 51–10–6.
1953–54	Rs. 34–1–5.

No other dealer in Agra is in arrears of sales tax.

" (*b*) The Commercial Tax Officer, North Madras, has addressed the Collector of Madras for the issue of a certificate under the Revenue Recovery Act for addressing the Uttar Pradesh Government for the collection of the arrears."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" As the arrears of sales tax due to this State Government from the traders who are in Agra are very small amounts, are we to take it, Sir, that these arrears of sales tax represent the amount of tax due for the trade carried on within this State even though the persons concerned are living at Agra? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" இந்த 80 ரூபாயை வசூல் பண்ணுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் எத்தனை ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கவேண்டும் ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" In the process I enumerated, there will not be much of expenditure."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know whether there has been any suggestion that sales tax on inter-State trade be collected by the Central Government and be distributed to the States concerned? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Probably the hon. Member refers only to the idea expressed by the Taxation Enquiry Commission."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know whether large arrears of sales tax are due to this State Government from traders living in other States like Bombay, West Bengal, and whether the Government are trying to come to an agreement with the different State Governments in the matter of collection of taxes due to each State from other States? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" That is a different question. The main question relates to arrears of sales tax due from traders in Agra."

* 1688 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question will be taken up to-morrow."

Community Platforms, Coimbatore district

* 1689 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount allotted for the construction of Community Platforms in the Coimbatore district for the year 1953–54; and

(*b*) the number of such platforms constructed so far?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) A sum of Rs. 16,500 was allotted to the Coimbatore district for the construction of platforms during 1953–54.

" (*b*) Twenty-three platforms have been constructed so far."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அந்தத் தொகை பூராவையும் ஏன் செலவு செய்யவில்லை ? அதற்குக் காரணம் என்னவென்று சொல்வார்களா ? "